

*Newes from Flanders and  
Ostend.*

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A  
TRUE DECLARA-  
tion how that the Lords States of  
*the united Prouinces*, vnder the  
conduct of his Excellencie, haue set  
forth a princelike Nauie of ships  
from *Zeland*, the 15.  
day of April  
1604:

Which went to the Island of *Casant*, where  
the foresayd Lords States haue taken in the  
Sconce of *Coxie*, *S. Catherine*, *S. Phi-  
lip*, and *Isendsick*, with other  
small sconces and  
holds.

*Translated out of Dutch into English.*



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## To the Reader.



Entle Reader , Notwithstanding the long (almost this three yeres ) besieging of the Towne of *Ostend*; the Lords States of the vnited Prouinces, haue thought it good, to land an Armie in *Flanders*, hoping by that meanes to withdraw the siege from *Ostend*: and perceiuing that the Enemie for all that leaues not the siege, but daily gets neere vnto the same, hoping likewise to get it in, and so perswading himselfe, that nothing shall be able to withstand his might, but all to be vnder his power; to that ende they of *Flanders* haue employed all their forces to bring vnder the said Towne of *Ostende*, thinking by that meanes to haue all that Countrey so sure vnto them, that none were able to set any more footing in that land, to winne any thing from them; not thinking so much on the Lords strong hand (the other meanes) as of late he hath shewed, and is like to come to

## To the Reader.

pasſe; when alwayes the Enemie thought  
(if *Oſtend* were won) not ſo much as a win-  
dow would be left open thorow which any  
man might by any meanes preiudice them.  
God notwithstanding hath opened a doore  
to his Excellencie, to let him in; as we may ſee  
in reading of this brieſe and true declarati-  
on, for which we are highly to praife God,  
and to praie moreouer that his Excellencie  
(vnder the Lords protection) may haue a  
good proceeding in his godly purpoſe; and  
that it would pleaſe God to open the eies of  
the inhabitants of the land of *Flanders*, and  
others, which are vnder the Spaniards  
yoke, that we all may liue together in  
one true beliefe peace & loue,  
to Gods glorie and our  
ſoules ſaluation.

*Amen.*



A true declaration how that the  
Lords States of the united Provinces, vnder the  
conduct of his Excellencie, hath set forth a Prince-  
like manie of ships from Zeland, the 15. of April 1604.

which went to the Island of Casant, where the

foresaid Lords States, haue taken in the

Sconce of Coxie, S. Katherine,

S. Philippe, and Isendicke,

with other Sconces

and holds.

**B**y the wise gouernment of  
the Lords States in gene-  
rall of the united Prouin-  
ces in Netherland, and  
his Princelike Excellencie  
Maurice of Nassaw, there  
were staled and taken vp al  
about in the foresaid uni-  
ted Provinces; a very great number of ships;  
and so furnished with all maner of warlike mu-  
nition, to set forward towards the Enemies  
countrey; and hauing shipped all their horse and  
foote, they came the 13. of Aprill 1604, before  
Zeland.

The 14. his Excellencie and the Lords  
States came before the Castle of Ramekins,  
where the foresaid Naue gathered them-  
selues together: Yet none of the Lordes  
States, nor his Excellencie, nor any other  
Lord, or principall man landed there, but re-  
mained all a shipboard; onely certaine Souldi-  
ers went a shoze to Middleborrow, and other

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places in the Island to buy such things as they had need of: which had warning in the evening towards eight of the clocke by the sound of the drumme, that all Souldiers vpon paine of death, should come a shipboard, and for that purpose were two of the gates of the said citie all night left open to let them passe out. As the Souldiers were come aboard, you might heare about twelue of the clocke at night, thre great pices of Ordnances to be shot of, when the ships set saile together, with faire weather, and a southeast winde, so that the foresaid shippes and Souldiers came by breake of day befoze Swarte-gate and Kerken-gate, in the Island of Calant, and there landed their men the 15. of the moneth aforesaid without the losse of anie one man.

They that laie about and in the Sconce called Swarte-gate, with other little holdes thereabouts, ran al away: whereupon his Excellencie marched forward toward the fozte of Hoffteede, the which he also tooke in, and went forward to the Sconce Lippenen, so named of the Captaine that held the same, whom his Excellencie commanded to deliuer vp the saide Sconce; whose answere was, that first he must see his Canon: whereupon his Excellencie sent him word, that if he should but shote one shot thereat, he would take none of them to mercy, and forthwith he placed two pices, whereupon they within presently deliuered it vp, going out

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out thereof with their weapons.

The enemy hearing of his Excellencies approach, drew out forthwith some part of their arme that lay before Ostend, and came the 15. day of the saide Aprill on the west side of Sluis haven.

The 16. day the Enemy there began to entrench himselfe with a halfe-moone, to stop the comming ouer of his Excellencie, who the 17. and the 18. of the same moneth stirred not, till he had fortified himselfe in the Island of Calant, as the Enemy did on the West side thereof: yet notwithstanding his Excellencie brought one of his Batteries vnder the Castle of Sluis, where he caused certaine shot to be made on the Gallies there, whereupon the Enemy caused them presently to be brought vp higher to the Towne of Sluis.

They of Sluis shot but little: His Excellencie would loose no time, but thought good to finde out another way to make his entrance into the maine-land of Flanders, and is therefore in the night, the 18. of Aprill aforesaid, gone by land, but the next day returned to his Quarter.

The night following, his Excellencie with a greater power goes forward, and takes in the Sconce of Coxie, and remained there the 20. day. Then his horse and foote make towards S. Catherines, and S. Phillip, where his Excellencie brought all his power, and upon their May day, *filomouo* (being Philip and Iacobs day) made

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made more than an hundred great shot at the Sconce of S. Philip and S. Catherine, before eight of the clocke in the Evening, and the whole Leaguer the whole night so bestirred themselves, that they within fearing some generall storme, ran all away, and so his Excellencie tooke in both the Sconces, to his great ioy and all his companie.

Having now set firme footing in Flanders, he goes presently to the Sconce of Isendijcke, about which he entrencheth himselfe, & lodgeth his Armie so about it, shutting them so vp, that no man might either come forth or goe in unto them.

The Enemy lyeth on the West side of Sluis hauen, and causeth great store of Shallops from Bridges and Sluis to be brought, with two thousand men in them, meaning to take in Cassant againe. Our men suffered the Enemy to land to the number of some thousand, and so fell on them, and drave them to flight, which were the greatest part of them Spaniards and Italians, crying out, *A la barca, A la barca.* Five of their shallops runne a ground and were drowned, with the men in them, the rest saue, except seventene that were taken, whereof three were brought to his Excellencie. Besides, our men got eight of the enemies Shallops.

His Excellencie goes forward with Isendijcke, and in the night tooke one that salied out of the Sconce, who being examined, gaue to understand,



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stand, That there was want of all things, except shot and fresh water.

His Excellencie the 29. of Aprill, sent his Trumpet called Hans, to summon them to yeld vp the Sconce; who at the second sound of the Trumpet, was shot in the head, of which he falles dead in the place. His Excellencie hereat being very angry, sent forthwith a drum to demand him that had shot his Trumpet, to be deliuered out vnto him, otherwise he would receiue none of them to mercy: wherupon they sent out two Captaines, making excuse that they by no meanes could learne who had done the same: yet notwithstanding his Excellencie instantly demands that hee be deliuered befoze he will giue them any hearing, whereupon they returned to their Sconce; and in the Euening came to his Excellencie to parle about the deliuey vp of the said Sconce, which giueth them no hearing. At last they come againe byinging with them him that had shot his Trumpetter, (which was an Italian) Then his Excellencie giues them the hearing, and are agreed on such conditions as follow.

### The Conditions.

**F**irst, that they shall goe out of the saide Sconce, with their armes, without sounde of drumme, and without their matches light.

Secondly, that they shall leaue in the saide Sconce all their great Ordinance & Munition.

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Thirdly,

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Thirdly, that in 4. monthes next following, they shall not beare Armes against his Excellencie in Flanders.

Fourthly, that his Excellencie will lende them shipping to carrie their sicke and hurt men with their baggage to Sas, and for that shall two Captaines remaine in hostage with his Excellencie, till the foresaid shippes come againe.

After this agreement, the Souldiers went out of the Sconce, the last of April, 1604. about five of the clocke in the afternoone, being in number 600. men.

Since, it is crediblie reported by sundrie passengers, that the 2. of May, and the 3. his Princely Excellencie marched vp toward the ruinated walled townes, Ardenborgh and Middleborgh, and tooke them, and so marched vp toward the Towne of Dam, distant a league from Bridges. Other Passengers comming from Flushing the 4. of May, say, that there were arrived more Souldiers out of Frieseland: likewise Switsers to be sent to his Princely Excellencie in Flanders.

Also that the Countie of Earle Lodowicke of Nassow, with other Captaines, with some 14. Coronets of horsemen, accompanied with the mutined Souldiers, called the Squadron, (strong 1500. horsemen, and 800. footemen Muskettiers) conducted by their Eletto, and directed by Captaine Du Boys, for the States,  
are

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are entred Brabant, with some Ordinance, and  
past up by Brussel, to Mons in Henault, and as is  
reported, as farre as Buist, spoiling all that  
they finde, saccaging all Abbeies, Townes,  
and Villages, Gentlemens houses, that had  
no money to raunsome them, Wouere, Flerus  
and other townes burnt, seeking to bring al un-  
der their contributions: but it is thought, they  
pretend to take and fortifie some Towne or  
place vpon the Moose, to stop all passage from  
Germanie and Italy.

Passengers comming from Flushing the  
fourth day of May, and others comming by  
the sea-coast of Flanders and Ostend, heard and  
saw on Saturday the fifth of this present Mo-  
neth, great shouting on all sides at Ostend, for  
the space of seuen houres vpon the Seas, per-  
aduenture to force them, before Prince Mau-  
rice's campe came nêrer. Great accusations be-  
ing made by Marques Spinola, the Generall  
before Ostend, vnto the Archduke at Gant,  
of the Spanish Souldiers untowardnesse in  
fight, enuying the honour of the Italians and  
Malons, being maintained as is thought of  
Don Loys de Valasco, and they vse these words;  
*Que non quieren mourir por vn Marques Spinola, mas  
ben por en Rey*: which is, that they will not die  
for Marques Spinola, but will for their king: en-  
uying him the honoꝝ.

It is like that they of the Countrey of Flan-  
ders, hauing contributed hetherto some ninetie  
thousand

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thousand Guildens monthly, which is 9000 pounds sterling, for the maintenance of this siege, will now not be able to continue, being spoiled, and charged with three campes, the besieging campe, and the Archdukes campe, and the Prince Maurice campe. Whitherto is all related what is past: beseeching God to send a deliuerie to those Prouinces, of Spanish & forreine gouernment, where by all Christendome might come to a good peace, which God grant.

Amen:

F I N I S.

